

reaches them, spasmodic efforts here and there are made to regain lost points along the line, from which we had dislodged them; but they are repulsed in each instance. They rush down the turnpike with their artillery nearly to our lines, just taken from them, and open fire; but their guns are soon in our hands, men and horses going down under the terrible fire with which they are met. It was not far from this point that the writer saw the President during this battle. He was probably nearer Butler than he had been for four years, as his courier whom we captured in the vicinity, said he was then very near the general. (At the National Democratic Convention of 1860, in Charleston, S. C., Butler gave fifty-seven successive votes for Davis as his choice for President of the United States.)

And now we waited anxiously for the attacks to be made on the right flank and rear of the enemy by General Whiting with the two or three brigades in his hands on the Petersburg side. But in vain! This plan carried out with the courage for which the General had already made a reputation among the bravest and the best soldiers in the Army of Northern Virginia, should have resulted in the capture of all Butler's artillery and wagons, (that he was safely withdrawing in our sight), and a good portion of his Army of the James. General D. H. Hill was with General Whiting, but without command. Both his prayers and imprecations to deliver the *coup de grace* were without avail. Is it an evil genius that thus hovers above the Confederate cross? For this is not the first time that it has been checked on the high tide to an effective victory by a voice that certainly came not out of the North, saying: "Thus far shall thou go, and no farther."

The only casualty remembered in the regiment as of to-day is the mortally wounding of Green Bowers, of Company D, by a rifle ball which also went through an artillery horse near him on the front line.

BUTLER BOTTLED UP.

17 May. Though we have not captured Butler, we have "bottled him up" (as General Grant reports it to Mr. Lincoln), between the James and Appomattox rivers, and a